

*...life in the **Big Fish***

**What**

is it

**that**

ties **US**

**together**

**as men?**

## *Welcome...to life in the Big Fish*

### *promoting faith*

**Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.**

**Hebrews 10:23-24**

### *promoting brotherhood*

**...and every city or household divided against itself will not stand...**

**Matthew 12:25**

**How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity!**

**Psalms 133:1**

### *promoting growth*

**As Iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.**

**Proverbs 27:17**

### 1) Church

I will attend church on Sundays and other events hosted by the church, as my work schedule allows. It will help me establish relationships, be loved and affirmed by good people and will help my faith in Christ grow, in the company of other men.

Hebrews 10:25 not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Attending church helps me keep track of the teaching you receive. Let's "Do Life Together". Church starts at 10 am. If you want to get Starbuck's or fix up your hair real nice, leave yourself enough time to be leaving the house by 9:00 or 9:15. We don't meet people and build relationships by showing up at the fourth worship song. We need to be intentional and punctual. God has rewarded us with an amazing church filled with good men. Let's meet them. It's why we are here!

#### Tips and Suggestions

Phone calls, Texts and Facebook, compete with God for our attention. Church is .000892 of your week. (And yes I did the math). I would ask that you turn off (not silence) your cell phones for the 1.5 hours we are in church and for the 1.5 hours of morning devotion. Bring a bible to church if you need to read scripture. There are exceptions, but let's submit to God in these areas of our growth. I will do the same.

### 2) Morning Devotions

I will read the bible every day. I will make no excuses. The bible is The Infallible Word of God. If I want to get closer to God, I must be reading every day. I will attend morning devotions as my schedule allows. It is always a good time at Starbuck's. If I can't attend morning devotions, I will make time to do them during my day.

Psalm 119:11 Your word I have hidden in my heart,  
that I might not sin against You.

James 4:8 Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

### 3) Get Active

I will get off my butt and get active. The couches are for sitting, not for sleeping. Men were created to move and expend energy. Being active helps all of us greatly. Men explore. Men act on the world. Note: I didn't say act out on the world.

**4) Weekly Prayer Time**

I will participate in nightly, group, prayer time. Some nights the group may be smaller than others. Prayer is key. Without conversation with God, we all sink into the pit.

1 Peter 5:8 "Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls Around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour."

Ephesians 6:12-13 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

**5) White Board Scriptures**

I will participate in sharing what I have learned. This life I am doing together with fellow Christians needs to be led by God. I will share weekly scriptures, thoughts and prayers on the white board. I will share how God moves me during the week. (We want to learn and grow from your newly acquired knowledge. It's quick. It's easy. It's required.)

## **Rules**

the house

### 1) Accountability Software

I will install accountability software on my computer. It may not keep me from looking at porn, but it will put a damper on my plans when I start hearing from my accountability partners. The more accountability partners I have, the better. I will make the people receiving my emails count. I will realize that comfort has kept me sinful and that humility will keep me safe. I will make my accountability partners those that are influential in my life. I will make it someone who would be destroyed if they found out I look at porn. (PS I don't count as one of your partners.)

### 2) All computers in Living Room

I agree to leave my computer in the living room. I agree that this will facilitate that I am not masturbating to porn in my room. Keeping the computers in the living room will be a source of accountability for the house. We should all be curbing, if not discontinuing, the use of masturbation as a tool for stress relief, relaxation and pleasure in our lives. Our sex drive is a wild beast in need of taming. I have no way to monitor this except through conversation and honesty. I used masturbation as an escape from my problems. We must face them head on. My biggest break through came when God showed me that when pain begins to surface, He would reach for my pain and I would reach for my penis. The bible has this to say,

1 Corinthians 13:11 'When I was a child, I talked like a child,  
I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became  
A man, I put childish ways behind me.

Masturbation is a childish way to ease our pain.

**We have got to attack our problems like men do. Head on!**

### 3) Honesty

I will be open and honest about my struggles. I realize that the enemy of my soul, satan, wants me to fail. He wants to pit me against the people who are trying to help me. I refuse to let that happen.

Proverbs 27:17 As iron sharpens iron, So a man sharpens the  
countenance of his friend.

Proverbs 15:33 Wisdom's instruction is to fear the LORD, and  
humility comes before honor.